

to attend. For the second course, the waiters again entered in file, bearing covered dishes. As soon as the leading man reached the further end of the saloon, they halted and faced right and left. At a signal, they place the dishes on the table, and at another they whisked off the covers. The principal viands, however, did not make their appearance, but were carved in the buttery. The immense variety of puddings and tarts surprised us, when we remembered the small space allotted to their preparation. A card with a pencil was given to each person who required wine, that he might sign his order and be satisfied that he was not charged for more than he had consumed. Tea was on the table at seven, and supper was ready at nine for those who wanted it; so that truly the most hungry of mortals would find it difficult to keep a constant sharp edge on his appetite. On going on board, two days before sailing, we remarked in the dining saloon cards with the names of passengers pinned to the table-cover. In this way people engage the seats they may wish to occupy during the voyage. We accordingly made our selection, but the first day, when we had taken our places, we were politely invited by Captain West to occupy seats at his table, and he installed us in a snug corner, which we retained, to our very great comfort, during the voyage.

People talk of the tediousness of a voyage. For my part I love the deep majestic sea too much ever to weary of it. I have a predilection, however, for pleasant companions, a good ship, and fine weather. We had left port about forty hours when thick weather came on, and some sportful seas getting up began to tumble the ship about, continuing so to do incessantly for some days,